

developments -- compact and comprehensive -- could be of very great value. After all, we already produce a variety of costly volumes the sole value of which is as works of reference and repositories of our history. Why -- for expenditures which in terms of money and staff are not of any great magnitude -- should we not produce a record which would not duplicate others but would perform an equally important function?

(4) For those whose chief concern is costs, I might note that any who may regard modern printing techniques with suspicion and feel that conventional methods must be cheaper should look more closely into the available data. There is a tendency to overlook the fact that the cost of conventional typesetting has risen enormously in recent years, and now far outdistances that of photocomposing. I mentioned that Historical Division has decided to produce the next volume -- No. 8 -- of "Documents on Canadian External Relations" by automation. This decision follows on a survey made by Mr. J.B. Coutu of Management Services Division which concluded that while the total cost of getting Volume 5 set up on the press and ready for actual printing by conventional hot-type technique was \$27,426, that same volume could be produced today through use of Alphatext facilities for \$9487 -- a saving of some \$15,000. Any number of similar examples might be cited. The Food Prices Review Board, which was putting out